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BANK

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D. P. Zomeni

September 19, 2005

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FDIC
San Francisco, Regional Office
Director John F. Carter
25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square
Suite 2300
San Francisco, California 94105
Re: Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Dear Director Carter:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly urge you to reject the application by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. to charter an industrial loan company in Utah. As the president of a community bank in a rapidly growing area of the state of Alabama dominated by the larger regional institutions, I understand the need of a community bank to our population. Small business owners, real estate investors, and entrepreneurs all depend on the relationship that they establish with their banker and that relationship is vital to their continued success.

If you should allow a commercial firm to establish a full service FDIC insured national bank, it will create an environment where the separation of banking and commerce no longer exists. Also with a Wal-Mart bank in every location, the community banks may find themselves proceeding down the same path as the independently owned small businesses where many were forced to close due to the opening of the new Wal-Mart store in their markets. In my community, we are fortunate to experience a vibrant business environment but most recently several smaller stores have been forced to close with the timing surprising close to the opening of the new Wal-Mart near our bank.

Our bank was founded in this community and is committed to the growth and prosperity of the market that we serve. The mission statements and dedication to service clearly separates us from a mammoth institution such as Wal-Mart. Please keep them providing the services that they do best and allow us to compete for banking services on a level playing field.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Washburn
President and CEO